

Serial No. 10/700,500

ASA-350-07

REMARKS

The Applicants have amended claim 27 to address the Examiner's note that claims 27-30 do not appear to read on the elected species. In particular, claim 27 has been amended to remove the recitation of a "recording element" because the Applicants wish to focus examination on the claimed features of the reproducing element of the magnetic head.

The Applicants submit, however, that the elected species (a magnetic apparatus) performs reproduction from a perpendicular magnetic recording medium in accordance with the features of the elected claims. Thus, because the features of the reproducing element are believed to be shown in Fig. 16, the Applicants elected the species defined by the Examiner as pertaining to Fig. 16. The election does not preclude coverage of a magnetic apparatus that includes the elected species, it being noted that the species election requirement did not include the option of selecting a species of a figure showing a magnetic apparatus having the reproducing element claimed in claim 27.

New claim 31 has been added to claim the magnetic apparatus with the perpendicular magnetic recording medium in the preamble in Jepson format. New claims 32-33 are similar to claims 28 and 30.

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The Applicants' representative invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number below to discuss any aspect of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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